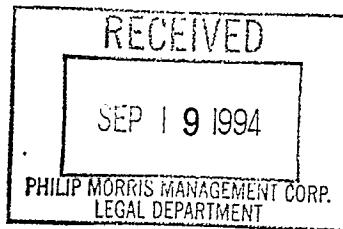


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CONFIRMATION

16 August 1994

Our ref:PAS/CS/33442

Your ref: PM 1522

Dear Charles,

Romanian Patent Application No. 92 0183
Your ref: PM 1522 - Our file: 33442

I have been giving further thought to how we might deal with the Romanian Examiner. There is nothing much in our specification to impregnation and for release of pressure can lie outside the ranges of 1 to 10 these are both features of the prior art rather than of the invention and in documents to support our argument that these ranges are not essential to the process. Thus I think it is the case that features (a) and (d) of claim 1 (corresponding with the pre-characterizing part of claim 23) are all features in U.S. 4,234,250 (Utsch). The novelty of our process resides in the cooling prior to impregnation and it is at this point that we need to be precise as to the conditions.

CK Rom. 1522
file + see if
we have
responded
already since
8-16-94

During our telephone discussion you emphasised the importance of flow through cooling which is at present the subject of claims 2 and 24 of the European set. This is in fact a feature already described in Utsch at column 6, line 66 to column 7, line 4. Thus it does not help in distinguishing the invention but it might help in persuading the Romanian Examiner that we had stated in claim 1 all the necessary conditions. Would you be happy to include this feature in claim 1?

I look forward to your early comments. I will let you know as soon as we hear anything from Romania.

Yours sincerely,

P.A. Smith

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